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**PUBLIC NOTICE  
TOWN OF CHARLESTOWN**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Public Hearing relative to a proposed amendment to the **Code of the Town of Charlestown, Ordinance No. 401, Amending Chapter 218 – Zoning, Cannabis Retail Sales** was heard on May 8, 2023, and has been continued as amended to June 12, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. at the Charlestown Town Hall, 4540 South County Trail, Charlestown RI 02813. At the public hearing noted above, the following proposed amendments to the Code of Ordinances will be considered. Opportunity shall be given to all persons interested to be heard upon the matter of the proposed ordinance. The following proposed amendments may be adopted and/or altered or amended prior to the close of the public hearing without further advertising, as a result of further study or because of the views expressed at the public hearing. The proposed ordinance is available for review at the Town Clerk's Office between the hours of 8:30 am and 4:30 pm, Monday through Friday, excluding holidays, or at [charlestownri.gov](http://charlestownri.gov) prior to said hearing.

**ORDINANCE NO. 401  
AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 218 – ZONING**

**Section 1.** The Town Council of the Town of Charlestown hereby ordains that Chapter 218 of the Code of Ordinances, Town of Charlestown entitled Zoning is amended as follows:

See Exhibit A for a full version of the proposed amendments. These amendments will provide for the use and regulation of retail cannabis sales in the Town. See the entire provisions set forth in Exhibit A for a full understanding of the proposed amendments.

Note: Words set as ~~strikeover~~ are to be **deleted** from the ordinance; words set in underline are to be **added** to the ordinance.

**Section 2.** The Town Clerk is hereby authorized to cause said changes to be made to the Town of Charlestown's Code of Ordinances.

**Section 3.** This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon passage.

Attested To By:

Passed By Town Council On:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Amy Rose Weinreich, CMC Town Clerk

**To be Advertised in the Westerly Sun, in full: May 22, 2023**

EXHIBIT A

218-5 Word usage and definitions.

....

B. Terms defined. Words...Ordinance.

ABATTOIR ...

...

CANNABIS

As used in this ordinance, cannabis or marijuana means all parts of any plant of the genus cannabis, including but not limited to the seeds, resin, compound, salt, derivative, mixture, or use containing any amount of tetrahydrocannabinol.

CANNABIS RETAIL STORE

An establishment authorized to sell or otherwise transfer cannabis or marijuana products to consumers for use off the premises, but not to cultivate, manufacture, process, or package cannabis or marijuana products, in accordance with applicable state laws and regulations. A Cannabis Retail store must be licensed to operate as a Cannabis or Marijuana Retailer in accordance with applicable state laws and regulations.

CANNABIS RETAILER

An entity licensed by the Rhode Island Cannabis Control Commission as a Cannabis Retailer or a Marijuana Retailer to purchase or deliver cannabis or marijuana products from Cannabis or Marijuana Establishments and to sell or otherwise transfer these products to Cannabis Marijuana Establishments and to consumers. Unless licensed, retailers are prohibited from delivering cannabis or marijuana products to consumers; and from offering cannabis or marijuana products for the purposes of on-site social consumption on the premises of a Cannabis or Marijuana Establishment.

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218 Attachment 1  
Town of Charlestown  
Land Use Table

Principal Use	R-20	R-40	R-2A	R-3A	C-1	C-2	C-3	I	PD	GWP	OSR	M	TVD
Commercial Uses													
<u>Cannabis Retail Store*</u>						<u>S</u>	<u>Y</u>			<u>U</u>			

Notes:

Y = Permitted Uses

S = Special Use Permit

U = Consult underlying district

\* = See 218-35 District use Allowances.

1 218-37 Specific Land Use Standards and Conditions.

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4  
5 I. Standards for Individual Uses

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7  
8 (31) Cannabis Retail Store

9  
10 Location Standards

- 11  
12 (a) A Cannabis Retail Store shall be permitted by right in the C-3 District and by the issuance  
13 of a special use permit by the Zoning Board of Review in the C-2 District as set forth in  
14 §218 Attachment 1, Land Use Table.  
15  
16 (b) A Cannabis Retail Store shall not be permitted within one thousand (1,000) feet of:  
17  
18 (1) A pre-existing public or private daycare or school providing education in pre-school,  
19 kindergarten, or any grades one through twelve; or  
20  
21 (2) A pre-existing children's playground; or  
22  
23 (3) A pre-existing church or house-of-worship; or  
24  
25 (4) A municipal building.  
26  
27

28 Site Development Criteria

- 29  
30 (a) Parking shall be clearly defined with one space required for every two hundred (200)  
31 square feet of retail.  
32  
33 (b) A minimum twenty-five (25) foot buffer, consisting of both opaque fencing and evergreen  
34 vegetative screening, shall be provided along the entire perimeter where the use abuts a  
35 residential zone or residential use.  
36  
37 (c) A Cannabis Retail Store shall comply with any and all dimensional provisions set forth in  
38 §218 Attachment 2, Dimensional Table, as applicable for the specific district.  
39

40 Use Criteria

- 41  
42 (a) Signs shall comply with all applicable provisions of §218-63.  
43  
44 (b) All exterior lighting shall comply with all applicable provisions of Chapter 155 Article III  
45 of this code.  
46

1 (c) A plan for the mitigation of cannabis odor outside of the retail establishment must be  
2 included as part of the permit application and such odor emanating from the retail  
3 establishment shall not create a public nuisance.

4  
5 (d) Safety, Security, and Emergency Response

6  
7 [1] An initial Safety and Security plan shall be created in conjunction with the Chief  
8 of Police or his/her designee and shall be filed with the police department, and  
9 building/zoning department as part of the application process and shall include,  
10 but not limited to, the following;

- 11  
12 i. Proposed location of and types of security devices employed; and  
13  
14 ii. At least one security alarm system; and  
15  
16 iii. Planned measures to secure every entrance to the establishment to  
17 prevent unauthorized entrance; and  
18  
19 iv. Access into areas containing cannabis is restricted to employees and  
20 others permitted by the cannabis establishment to access the area  
21 and to agents of the Rhode Island Cannabis Control Commission or  
22 state and local law enforcement officers and emergency personnel;  
23 and  
24  
25 v. Secure inventory and equipment during and after operating hours to  
26 deter and prevent theft of cannabis, cannabis products, and cannabis  
27 accessories; and  
28  
29 vi. Employee-instruction manual, including security policies, personal  
30 safety, and crime prevention techniques.

31  
32 [2] Annually the safety and security plan shall be presented for review to the Chief  
33 of Police or his/her designee and filed with the police department and  
34 Building/Zoning Department within thirty (30) days.

35  
36 [3] An emergency response plan shall be filed with the police and fire departments  
37 pursuant to rules and regulations promulgated by the Rhode Island Cannabis  
38 Control Commission.

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42 \*\* PLEASE NOTE – The Zoning map below can be found in a larger format at  
43 [www.charlestownri.gov](http://www.charlestownri.gov) or at the Charlestown Town Hall, 4540 South County Trail, Charlestown  
44 RI 02813.  
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